

News from the Creek

Friends of Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Farm, Inc.

Volume 20 Number 2

Visit our website at: www.marjoriekinnanrawlings.org

Summer Quarterly 2017

Presidents Message

by Barbara Wingo

I will repeat what I stated in my last column because it is worth repeating: I hope that you have been able to attend one or more of this year's events Celebrating 75 Years of *Cross Creek* and *Cross Creek Cookery*. If not (or if so), there are still more events yet to come.

What a year we are having! As an example, the well-attended event, "A Writer's Life: Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings and Women Writers Today," gave the audience a chance to hear the unique perspectives of writers Susan Cerulean, Lola Haskins, and Dr. Leslie Kemp Poole, all influenced by Rawlings. Artists have begun visiting the area in connection with "Cross Creek Rising: The Consciousness of Land and Water." Please read more about the welcoming event held at the Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Historic State Park in this newsletter (page 3).

The library talks continue apace, and, of course, so do the food events. Coming up are an Old Fashioned Ice Cream Social on July 9 at the Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Historic State Park and a Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Food Truck Rally at the Historic Thomas Center in Gainesville on September 29. (Note the location change.) On August 5 we will celebrate Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings' 121st Birthday with a Fish Fry at the ark. Tickets, which are limited, are required for the latter event and must be purchased at mkrfishfry.eventbrite.com prior to July 30. Of course, we will also have birthday cake.

A Tea with Zora and Marjorie, a play by Barbara Speisman, will take place on July 21 and on July 22 at the Matheson History Museum in Gainesville. Because of interest generated for the event, the play will be performed on two nights, rather than one as originally planned. Tickets for the Friday, July 21 performance must be purchased at zora-marjorie.eventbrite.com. Tickets for the Saturday, July 22 performance must be purchased at zora-marjorie2.eventbrite.com. Tickets are limited. More information on this event may be found in the newsletter (page 2).

On September 7 I will be doing a presentation in St. Augustine at the Lightner Museum. Marjorie bought her cottage in Crescent Beach in 1939, spending time in that locale in addition to Cross Creek. In 1942, she married Norton Baskin who owned and managed the Castle Warden Hotel in St. Augustine. These and the years that followed in St. Augustine and Crescent Beach were the years of *Cross Creek*, *Cross Creek Cookery*, the Zelma Cason lawsuit, World War II, and *The Sojourner*. We will explore themes of Marjorie's personal and professional life in these venues.

As we continue this year Celebrating 75 Years of *Cross Creek* and *Cross Creek Cookery*, I want to make a special request that all members of the Friends ask their friends and acquaintances to join our citizens support organization. The year's activities would not be possible without the support of the Friends of the Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Farm, Inc.

Again, hoping to see you at one or more of our coming events!



Hosting table at writers event

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Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings

“A Tea with Zora and Marjorie”

A Play by Barbara Speisman

FRIDAY, JULY 21, 2017 - 7:00PM
 SATURDAY, JULY 22, 2017 - 7:00PM

Matheson History Museum
 513 E University Avenue
 Gainesville, FL



Zora Neale Hurston

A Classic Theatre of St. Augustine is proud to bring its production of *A Tea with Zora and Marjorie* by Barbara Speisman to the Matheson History Museum on July 21, 2017 at 7 pm and on July 22, 2017, at 7 pm. Directed by Jean Rahner, *A Tea with Zora and Marjorie* imagines the conversation between two of Florida’s best-loved writers at their first meeting at St. Augustine’s Castle Warden Hotel, run by Rawlings’ husband Norton Baskin, and later at Cross Creek, as they share their musings on life and a little “whiskey” with their tea. Marjorie invites Zora to come for a visit to her farm at Cross Creek and is impressed by Zora’s “ingratiating personality, brilliant mind and fundamental wisdom.” The original cast features two talented, veteran actors: Rhodie Jackson of Jacksonville, who made her ACT debut in the role of Zora Neale Hurston, and St. Augustine’s Nancy Grote in the role of Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings.

Rhodie Jackson was recently featured in the original play *St. George and the Dragon* written by Jason Woods. Rhodie has also performed with the Five & Dime Theatre in Jacksonville and the Limelight Theatre in St. Augustine.

Nancy Grote has portrayed Marjorie in previous ACT productions of *My Friend Zelma* and *CROSS ROADS: Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings & Norton S. Baskin in Unguarded Moments*. Other regional performances include appearances at Limelight and the City Repertory in Palm Coast.

This event is co-sponsored by the Matheson History Museum, the Friends of the Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Farm, Inc. and the George A. Smathers Libraries at the University of Florida. The Matheson History Museum is located at 513 E. University Avenue in Gainesville. Tickets, which are limited, are \$10. Friday, July 21, tickets are available at zora-marjorie.eventbrite.com. Saturday, July 22, tickets are available at zora-marjorie2.eventbrite.com.



L to R: Actresses Nancy Grote (Marjorie) and Rhodie Jackson (Zora)



Notes from A Friend:

Margaret Harris shared with us a copy of a brochure for the Withlacoochee River Lodge in Inglis, Florida. The Withlacoochee River Lodge was owned and managed by Dessie Smith – Marjorie’s friend in the chapter “Hyacinth Drift” in *Cross Creek*. Under the Accommodations section of this post-World War II brochure is found the following: “Many of our recipes were popularized in Marjorie Kennan Rawling’s [*sic*] book—Cross Creek Cookery.”



Art In The Park by Donna Green-Townsend

Soft jazz and swing music drifted through the orange grove at the Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Historic State Park on April 28th at a special “Art In The Park” reception for artists participating in the upcoming juried exhibition, “Cross Creek Rising: The Consciousness of Land and Water.” Throughout the earlier part of the day a variety of artists spent time working on their art pieces inspired by Marjorie’s farm.

While the group Uptown Swing provided the entertainment on the porch of the tenant house in the grove, volunteers served up some delicious recipes from *Cross Creek Cookery*. Guests sampled such dishes as fish chowder and sweet potato soufflé cooked in Dutch ovens. Attendees also savored the taste of delicious orange-slice cookies as well as blackberries, strawberries and other fruit and veggies.

The goal of the juried art exhibition is not limited to representing the Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings home or Cross Creek, but to express the inspiration of the environs of all of North Central Florida. There will be five \$500 prizes awarded. Visual fine arts in all media are eligible, including 2D, 3D, drawing, painting, multi-media, sculpture and photography. The deadline for entries is August 4, 2017.



The Friends of the Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Farm is one of the co-sponsors of the art exhibition along with the Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings State Park and the Historic Thomas Center. For more information go online to www.gylculturalaffairs.org.

Photos are courtesy of Tish Kilpatrick and Russell Edling.

Photos from the Women’s Writer’s Event held at the Matheson History Museum in April.



Left, (l to r), Authors
Lola Haskins,
Dr. Leslie Kemp Poole
and Susan Cerulean.

Right: Authors seated
with Museum Director
Peggy MacDonald



**Photos from Eating Local:
Then and Now**



Park Ranger Carrie Todd presents the “then.”



Stefanie Samara Hamblen of Hogtown Homegrown presents the “now.”



**Celebrating the 75th Anniversary of
Cross Creek & Cross Creek Cookery**
(1942-2017)

Upcoming Events in 2017

- July 9 **Old Fashioned Ice Cream Social**
Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Historic State Park,
Cross Creek,
Cooking 10 AM-2 PM, Program 2:30 PM
- July 21 and **A Tea with Zora and Marjorie**
July 22 A play by Barbara Speisman
Matheson History Museum, Gainesville, 7 PM
Purchase tickets (\$10):
For July 21, at zora-marjorie.eventbrite.com
For July 22, at zora-marjorie2.eventbrite.com
(Note: 2 performances)
- August 5 **Happy 121* Birthday, Marjorie!**
Fish Fry at Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings
Historic State Park, Cross Creek, 5-7 PM
Purchase tickets (\$8) at mkrfishfry.eventbrite.com
- September 7 **Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings and St. Augustine,**
Lightner Museum, St. Augustine, 6 PM
- September 29 **Cross Creek Rising: The Consciousness**
-January 6 **of Land and Water**
Art Exhibition at Historic Thomas Center, Gainesville
For more information, visit website:
www.gvlculturalaffairs.org
- September 29 **Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Food Truck Rally,**
Historic Thomas Center, Gainesville, 6 - 9 PM
(Note: change of location)
- October 21 **Remembering Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings and Her**
Friends, Antioch Cemetery tour, 12 noon
(Call 352-466-3672 for information)

Alachua and Marion County Library Talks

All talks are on “Cross Creek” and “Cross Creek Cookery” unless otherwise noted.

- June 20 **Year of Cross Creek -- *The Secret River,***
Waldo Branch, ACLD, Community Center, 2 PM
- August 1 **Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings and *The Secret River,***
Alachua Branch, ACLD, 2 PM
- September 10 **Waldo Branch, ACLD at the Yerkes Center, 2 PM**
- September 17 **Headquarters Library, Marion County Public Library,**
2 PM

For more information on these and other events, visit our website:

www.marjoriekinnanrawlings.org

www.floridastateparks.org/marjoriekinnanrawlings

or call 352-466-3672

Friends Welcome Two New Board Members

Please join us in welcoming two new members of the Board of Directors of the Friends of the Marjorie Kinman Rawlings Farm, Inc.: Dr. Angel Kwolek-Folland and Donna Green-Townsend.

Dr. Angel Kwolek-Folland:

Dr. Kwolek-Folland joined the board in January. She currently serves as Associate Provost for Academic and Faculty Affairs at the University of Florida as well as Professor of History and Women's Studies in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Dr. Kwolek-Folland is a specialist in United States women's history. Her first book, *Engendering Business: Men and Women in the Corporate Office, 1870-1930* won the 1995 Sierra Prize from the Western Association of Women Historians. Her second book is *Incorporating Women: A History of Women and Business in the United States*.



Dr. Kwolek-Folland earned her Ph.D. in women's history from the University of Minnesota and taught at the University of Kansas prior to coming to the University of Florida in 2000 to assume the directorship of the Center for Women's Studies and Gender Research. She has taught courses in history, women's studies and American studies, and her research focuses on United States women's history, women's labor and business history, gender studies and material culture studies. In 2004 she received a Florida Blue Key Distinguished Faculty Award. She joined the Provost's Office in 2007.

Donna Green-Townsend:

Donna Green-Townsend joined the board in April. She is a journalist with 40 years of radio and television experience. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree in broadcast journalism from the University of Missouri School of Journalism. She has worked as a news director, producer, anchor, reporter and instructor for commercial and public radio and television stations in Missouri, Kansas and Florida.



Ms. Green-Townsend has received the prestigious Edward R. Murrow Award from the Radio and Television Digital News Association as well as other state and regional journalism awards. She recently completed nearly 31 years at the University of Florida where she was a multimedia news manager for WUFT and taught Advanced Radio Reporting for the College of Journalism and Communications.

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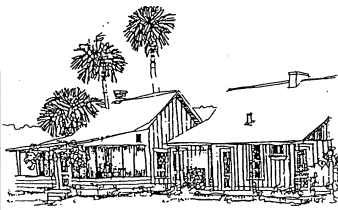
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Putting the House to Bed - August - September 2017



Just a reminder that while the park will remain open, we are soon going to be conducting our annual archival cleaning of Marjorie's home, closing the home for tours during August and September. The regular tour schedule will resume October. Although we are always hard at work keeping Marjorie's home cleaned and in repair, each year we go through what we like to call, "putting the house to bed," giving the contents and the house through a little intensive care, so to speak. Visitors to the park during that time are still welcome to look through the windows and visit with park personnel who always welcome a break from their chores to answer questions. Of course, volunteers wishing to help us clean and repair are always welcome. For questions/information, call (352) 466-3672.



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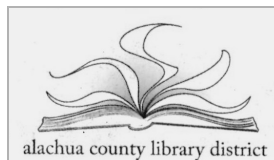
IS IT TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP?
Please check your address label. The date that you see on the label is the date your dues are due. If your membership is current, we thank you!



Thank You! to our Year of Cross Creek Sponsors



Marion County Public Library District



Membership Information

Effective July 1, 2014 new membership dues are as follows

Type	1yr	3yr	5yr	10yr	Lifetime
Individual	\$25	\$70	\$105	\$200	\$ 450
Family	\$30	\$85	\$130	\$250	\$ 550
Educational	\$30	\$85	\$130	\$250	\$ 550
Corporate	\$55	\$155	\$255	\$500	\$1,000

Please circle type of membership and send with your check to:
Friends of MKRawlings Farm, Inc.
P.O. Box 337
Micanopy, FL 32667-0337

Membership in the Friends of Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Farm, Inc.

We invite you to join or renew your membership in the Citizen Support Organization (CSO) for the MKR Historic State Park. Friends of the Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Farm, Inc., is a 501©(3) nonprofit organization. All contributions are tax deductible. A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Florida Division of Consumer Services by calling 1-800-435-7352 (toll-free within Florida). Registration does not imply endorsement, approval, or recommendation by the State.

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